

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were presented for examination and were pending in this application. In the above-referenced Office Action, claims 1-12 were rejected.

The Examiner required new drawings. New drawings are included herewith.

The Examiner objected to claim 11. Applicants herein amend claim 11 to correct the typographical error cited by the Examiner. Applicants now request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by "Specware 2.0.3 User Manual, March 1998" (hereinafter "Specware"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Independent claims 11 and 12 variously recite a method or system including the step or element of computing the colimits of the hereditary diagram of diagrams to compose large software modules while preserving the decomposition of the involved components. Applicants inform the undersigned that Specware in the version cited did not include this capability. While the Specware manual discusses the term "colimits," which is a known mathematical term, the Specware manual does not disclose or suggest computing the colimits of the hereditary diagram of diagrams to compose large software modules while preserving the decomposition of the involved components. Preserving the decomposition of the involved components is an important aspect of the present invention. It is akin to making soup, but being able to pull out the individual ingredients after they have been combined. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that the rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 1-12, as presented herein, are patentably distinguishable over the cited. Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of these claims. Dependent claims 2-11 depend from claim 1 and patentably distinguish over the art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

In addition, Applicants respectfully invite Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the number provided below if Examiner believes it will help expedite furtherance of this

application.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
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